

YOUTH SPORTS ADVISORY BOARD

Monday, May 11, 2009

Summary Notes

Board members present: Jim Gibson, Brian Donegan, Jeff Murphy, John Timmons, Mike Neilson, Bill Rivers

Staff members present: Tamika Coleman

Jim started the meeting by asking that the April minutes be reviewed by the Board members present. The minutes were approved as written.

Jim then indicated that he had been coordinating with Judy Noritake of the Park and Recreation Commission on the proposed land swap near G.W. He said that the Commission had sent a letter recommending that the study be done.

Tamika was representing the City at the meeting and briefed the Board on the budget status. The 2010 budget was approved on April 27th and included \$900,000 for artificial turf and lights at Ben Brenman Park. Also, it had \$400,000 for replacement lights at Luckett; Four Mile; and Simpson fields.

In response to an inquiry about Roger and his wife, she indicated that she would provide the e-mail address for Roger for any best wishes to be sent.

John brought up the issue as to how we help drive the use of the approved field funds since Roger was out. Agreement was reached that an e-mail would be sent to Roger (since he was technically working at home during his wife's illness) , with copies to other City officials asking what the Board could do. Bill volunteered to draft an e-mail for Jim's consideration.

Jim said that he would try to invite new Council members Fannon and Hughes to our next meeting. Also some School Board members if possible.

Jim then asked Board members for their updates:

Tamika:

- Softball
 - Opening ceremony was held.
 - Good turnout.
 - 13 teams.
 - Only concern is about rainouts and the schedule.
- Football
 - Registration to begin shortly.

- Basketball
 - Summer league starting soon.
 - The City will do some clinics for 5 and 6 year olds this summer.

Brian (Lacrosse):

- Program is doing well.
- No rainouts due to availability of the turf field at Minnie Howard.
 - In fact some games were shifted from Fairfax to Alexandria to use the field
- Playoffs are coming up shortly.
- About 350 total participants; an increase over last year.
- Jim added that St. Stephens and St. Agnes were willing to help do clinics if needed.

Jeff (Rugby):

- T. C. is in 5th place overall – top of Division II
- Just finished a road trip to Pittsburgh for a tournament.
 - Good experience.
- Playoffs starting soon.
- Some players will attend all-star games in Pittsburgh during the summer.
- About 50 boys and 25 girls turned out this year – double last year's.
- Better athletes coming out – now just need some experience.

John (Soccer):

- Rainouts are killing the schedules.
- The Rec level schedule may go into June (usually over in May).
- Over 1,800 participants – an increase over last year.
- Rain has seriously affected practice time as well as game schedules.

Jim (Football):

- Organizational meetings are going on.
- Fairfax is experiencing dollar problems.
- We are lucky to have good fields and good support in Alexandria.
- Season will start a little later this year due to later Labor Day.
- Seeing an infusion of new kids at the entry levels.
- Overall number are up from last year – seeing a crossover from Lacrosse.

Jim then indicated that he had talked to Bob McKeag (AD at T. C.). Bob is working on contacting Council members about lights at T. C. Has started a working group on the issue – meets once/month at T. C. All are invited to join.

Jim concluded the meeting by saying that the next one will be held on June 8th.